



# THE MILLENNIAL STAR

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EDITORIAL

## YOUR MOST PRECIOUS POSSESSION

**T**HOU art the Christ, the Son of the living God," declared Peter when the Saviour asked "Whom do ye say that I am?"

Whereupon Jesus said "flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

" . . . and upon this rock I will build my church." (1)

This testimony is the distinguishing characteristic of the true disciple of Jesus Christ. By this shall all men recognise a true disciple.

Wherever may be found a community of this testimony, should be found other evidences of the existence of Christ's true church among men.

Since our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, established His Church in modern times by restoration of its original authority, principles and ordinances, this testimony has become the possession of millions.

This testimony has been declared by tens of thousands of missionaries for more than 120 years. Scores of thousands of seekers after truth have believed these witnesses and have received the testimony for themselves.

"No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." (2)

These missionaries, witnesses that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God and their fellows in faith who have believed on their word, have imitated the example of Peter and the multitude:

" . . . Peter said unto them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

" 'For the promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call'.

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." (3)

“ . . . And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” (4)

The testimony that “ Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God ” keeps the Church together. It is the bond of brotherhood. It is the anchor of the faith of individual members. It “ inviteth to do good ” and “ persuades to believe in Christ ”.

Witnesses who bear this testimony count it their most precious possession.

Having it, they feel the sustaining glow and warmth of the Spirit, “ for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto ‘ them ’, but my Father which is in heaven ”.

“ . . . and upon this rock I will build my church.

“ And the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

This testimony, the personal possession of hundreds of thousands of Latter-day Saints throughout the world, perpetuated actively by the church’s world-wide missionary system, which includes thousands of member missionaries in wards and stakes and missions, is the great factor which has maintained and built the Church to stand unshaken through perilous times.

If the ancient church had been similarly sustained it would have been stronger in original testimony after 120 years and would not have been decimated by the false doctrines which destroyed its unity.

The testimony that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, is our anchor and our shield against error and iniquity. Cherish your testimony with all your heart, might, mind and soul!!

(1) Matthew 16:16-18.

(3) Acts 2:38-41.

(2) I Corinthians 12:3.

(4) Acts 2:47.

## **HYMN OF THE MONTH**

**November : *A Mighty Fortress***

BRITISH MISSION HYMN BOOK, p. 136

by Martin Luther

Tracy Y. Cannon of the Church Music Committee, writes that at the time the followers of Luther broke away from the Church, there was a need for hymns that expressed the views of these “ protestors ”. Luther then wrote a number of hymns and fitted them to popular secular music but these proved to be unsuitable for sacred texts. He being a musician then wrote hymns in a musical form called “ choral ”. This style is both strong and dignified and is used extensively in sacred music.

The hymn is to be sung with dignity and power. The words are a tribute to our God: a mighty fortress, a tower of strength, a powerful helper. We have the assurance that He did create all, that He will help to overcome ills, He will save from fall, and He shall reign for evermore.

The last verse has the special warmth of friendliness. As it is sung “ with heart and voice ” we enjoy the comfort and security of nearness to our “ Eternal Father ”, to know whom is “ life eternal ”.



# SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Address of President David O. McKay at the 125th Semi-Annual General Conference, Friday, October 1st, 1954.

**B**ELOVED brethren and sisters: Few of you realise the great responsibility of this moment. I humbly seek your sympathetic and prayerful assistance, and above all the guiding influence of the Spirit of the Lord.

You join me, I am sure, when we extend love and greetings to members of the Church and to interested loyal friends throughout the world, in Canada and Mexico, in Europe, South Africa, South America, New Zealand, Australia, the Polynesian Islands, in Japan and China, Greenland and Iceland, to groups in Korea and the Phillipines, on Guam and other islands of the Pacific. May the spirit of this Conference be felt by them through the mysterious medium of soul communion, even before they read the minutes of our great Conference.

Among the purposes of these General Conferences are, in summary, as follows:

(1) To inform the membership of general conditions — whether the Church is progressing or retrogressing, economically, ecclesiastically, or spiritually.

(2) To commend true merit.

(3) To express gratitude for divine guidance.

(4) To give instruction “in principles, in doctrine, in the law of the Gospel.”

(5) To proclaim the restoration, with divine authority to administer in all the ordinances, of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to declare, quo-

ting the Apostle Peter, that “there is none other name under heaven given among men,” than Jesus Christ, “whereby we must be saved.”

(6) To admonish and inspire to continue in greater activity.

When thinking and praying in anticipation of this moment, I felt impressed to say a word about what the Church is doing to help parents rearing their children, having in mind particularly the teenagers of our Church. In a very familiar poem a mother says to her son:

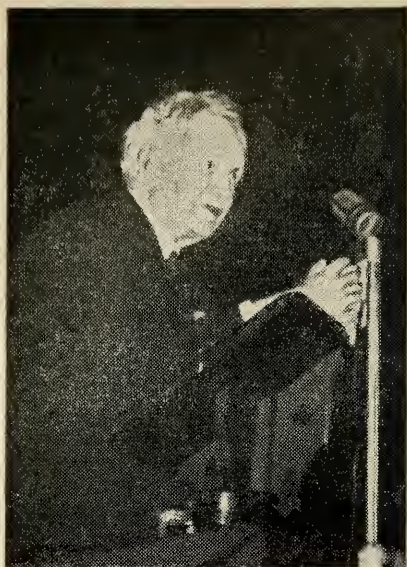
*“Do you know that your soul is of  
my soul such a part,  
That you seem to be fibre and core  
of my heart?”*

\* \* \*

*“Be yours then the task, if task it  
should be,  
To force the proud world to do  
homage to me,  
Be sure it will say, when it's verdict  
you've won,  
She reaped as she sowed, Lo! this  
is her son.”*

I should like to say a word in commendation of the groups in the Church who are helping you mothers and fathers to have your children bring you honour. Before doing that, however, I should like to make a brief report to you of conditions.

Through the loyalty and faithfulness of the members of the Church in paying tithes and offerings, by income from investments and gener-



ous contributions from well-wishing devoted friends, the Church is entirely out of debt, strong financially, and working under a budget carefully planned to meet all obligations incurred in the great building programme of chapels, temples, recreation halls, classrooms, throughout the organised stakes and missions of the world.

We commend all of you, and each of you, for your faithfulness in thus contributing to the finances of the Church, without which it would be impossible to supply the needs of a rapidly increasing membership.

We have just heard the report given by the clerk of the Conference of the organisation of new wards, branches, and stakes during the last six months. The growth of the Church at home and abroad is most encouraging.

### **Condition Spiritually**

With this increase in membership are evidences of increased spirituality. Spirituality results in the

greatest good when expressed in acts, not merely in day-dreams. "Shew me thy faith without thy works," said James, "and I will shew thee my faith by my works."

The great majority of the members of the Church are seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. This is shown, first in contributions in cash and labour in building 400 chapels at an average cost last year of \$80,000 each. In addition to this, the people of Southern California, for example, have contributed in cash toward the building and furnishing of the Los Angeles Temple, over one million dollars. On January 2nd, 1952, there was a meeting called of all Stake Presidencies in the Southern California district, at which those present voted unanimously to raise a million dollars to be paid as the building progressed. Today we are pleased to report that pledges for that amount and more have been fulfilled.

Another example of spirituality is the missionary work. There are at present 3,457 full-time missionaries labouring in the 43 missions, supported financially either by themselves or by their parents. There are 7,188 missionaries in organised stakes, making a total number of missionaries paying their own expenses, of 10,645.

Melchidezek Priesthood quorum work has never been more effective. The Senior Aaronic Priesthood activity is giving results unprecedented. The female Relief Society, the first auxiliary organised in the Church, is carrying on at its usual high standard, its influence extending beyond the boundaries of the Church as exemplified by the recent trip abroad by its worthy president, Sister Belle Smith Spafford, accom-

panied by Sister Marba C. Josephson of the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association. All of you should read their reports.

To all who are working devotedly in the Melchizedeck Priesthood quorums, and in the Relief Society, we extend our love, confidence and commendation.

I should like to commend, having in mind this Church work with teenagers, the Presiding Bishopric, the ward bishoprics, and the Auxiliary General Superintendents, General Boards for their earnest and most effective effort to guide the youth of the Church.

### **What the Church is Doing to Help**

Perhaps the Church could do more for the delinquents who get into the clutches of the law, but I feel impressed to refer to agencies working to prevent young people from becoming delinquents. For approximately three thousand years men have read the admonition: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." The word train means "to lead, or to direct the growth of, to form by instruction, discipline, drill, to educate."

Three groups carry the responsibility of training children: First, the family; second, the Church; third, the State. The most important of these is the family. By divine edict the Lord has placed upon parents the responsibility, first to teach the doctrine of repentance; second, faith in Christ, the Son of the Living God; third, baptism and confirmation; fourth, to teach children to pray; fifth, to teach children to walk uprightly before the Lord. Parents who shirk this responsibility will have to answer for the sin of neglect.

A new-born babe is the most helpless creature in the world. The protecting care of parenthood is essential to its survival, as well as its growth. It must be led and directed by instruction, discipline, drill, and proper education. Our most precious possessions are not our abundant harvests, nor our orchards yielding luscious fruit, nor our waterways, nor our million miles of paved highways, nor our oil wells, nor our rich mines of copper, silver and gold, nor even of uranium—our most precious possession, our treasures of eternity, are our children. These merit and should receive our greatest and our most constant care and guidance.

Daniel Webster was right when he said:

*"If we work upon marble, it will perish;  
If we work upon brass, time will efface it;  
If we rear temples, they will crumble into dust;  
But if we work upon immortal souls,  
If we imbue them with principles,  
With the just fear of the Creator  
and love of fellow men,  
We engrave on those tablets something which will brighten eternity."*

The bringing of children into the world bears with it great responsibilities, and opens to view the noblest purpose of life, namely, a co-partnership with Deity "to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man."

### **Most Effective Way to Teach**

The most effective way to teach is by example. It is the child's nature to be active. It is the duty of the parents and of guardians so to direct that activity, as to lead



children to know God's love, and the happiness found in obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Parents should ever keep in mind that admonition is of much more avail when example conforms to the admonition given.

### **The Church and Teenagers**

You will be gratified, and thinking men generally will be interested, to know what the Aaronic Priesthood quorums and the Auxiliary boards are doing in a practical way to assist you parents to train your children to become upright in character, loyal citizens of their country, and faithful members of the church.

Recently I sent a letter to the Presidency of the Aaronic Priesthood, to the General Superintendencies of the Sunday School and Y.M.M.I.A., and to the Presidencies of the Young Women's M.I.A. and to the Primary—the five groups dealing directly with the young people of the Church. In that letter I inquired as to how effectively they are attempting to contact all children and youth in these great organizations. Here are some of the headings of that letter: First, give your total membership, your total enrolment; second, give the percentage of those who should or might be enrolled; third, method or methods of contacting the indifferent; fourth, how many parents render more effective co-operation; and fifth, what has been your outstanding achievements during 1953 and 1954.

In the Aaronic Priesthood, we learned that they have an enrolment for the young men under twenty-one of 63,641. The percentage of the enrolment of the total members that should be en-

rolled, 92.79. In the Sunday School, they have an enrolment of 983,025; 91 per cent of those who should be enrolled. They had a weekly attendance of 381,656 or 35.5 per cent of the total membership of the Church. The Young Men's Mutual, May 31st, 1953, had an enrolment of 129,528, and on a corresponding day this year, 140,754; an average weekly attendance of 88,546. Every boy or man between the ages of 12 and 24 is enrolled in that organization, every one; 31,856 of these are enrolled in Scouting; 25,368 are enrolled as Explorers.

The Young Women's enrolment for 1953 was 124,079 plus visitors of 11,342. To date (note the increase) the enrolment is 134,303, with a weekly average of visitors of 10,384, or a total of 144,676, and the average attendance is 64 per cent of those enrolled.

One cannot help but have a pretty warm spot in one's heart for these teenagers in Mutual and Sunday School.

### **All Enrolled**

All members of the Church from the ages of 12 to 25 in the Young Women's are enrolled, and others.

Now we enter the Primary. The total number of children whose lives were touched by Primary in 1952-53—200,000; 83 per cent of the children of the Church of Primary age are enrolled; 69 per cent of the children enrolled are attending Primary; 142,745 children are enrolled in the Stakes; 6,841 non-member children are enrolled in the Stakes; 68 per cent of the children enrolled are in attendance each week at Primary; 13,000 Latter-day Saint children are enrolled in the missions. This has increased on an average of 1,000 per year for the last five years.



The Primary Association has assumed the direction of Scouting for the 11-year-old boys. According to a survey made in March, 92 per cent of the 11-year-old boys were enrolled in the Guide Patrols; 109 stakes, six missions have organised Cub Scout Dens and Packs since the Primary Association has sponsored the Cub Scouting as requested by the First Presidency.

Now, besides these auxiliaries and quorums, we have our seminaries. The total enrolment for seminaries and institutes in 1953 was 36,074; 1954—39,022. The average attendance for seminaries in '54, 32,226, or 94 per cent of the enrolment. That speaks well for our students in colleges and high schools.

As an illustration of the influence of the seminaries upon teenagers, and also as a lesson in co-operation of parents, I shall take the time to quote to you the following, taken from the September-October 1954, issue of a national magazine, not of our Church, *Faith Today*. The article is entitled "Teenage Frontier," written by Leola Anderson, for a copy of which I am indebted to President Ernest Wilkinson. It is designated by one of the editors as "one of the most heartening signs of the times." Here are a few quotations from it:

"The luminous hands of the clock beside the boy's bed point to 5.45 a.m. The alarm goes off. It has been raining all night; the air outside is cold and wet—and still black.

"Groggily the boy gropes about for the button to shut off the noise. Resolutely he swings his feet out on to the cold floor. For a moment he drops his tired face into his hands. It was 12.30 last night before he finished sweeping at the super market, and 1 o'clock when he got

home to bed. It has been like that all week. In his drooping body is a desperate urge to slip back into bed.

"That's why he stands up quickly and moves on into the shower. Because this morning and every school morning he drives seven miles to attend a class at 7 o'clock. It is a very special class, which he would not think of missing, so long as he is able to stand.

"What kind of class is it? A Bible-study class.

"Would you find it incredible that this boy is one of 1,700 typical, fun-loving teenagers who get up every morning to attend a 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. Bible class before going on to high school? They do it without credit, without coercion and often against tremendous odds. They do it five days a week, nine months a year, despite daylight-saving time.

"Furthermore, so great is the demand for this early morning instruction that next September 90 classes will open to meet the requests of 2,500 students in Southern California alone.

"Incredible? Not at all. This has been going on in the Los Angeles area for the last four years. It is a part of the programme of daily religious education offered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a programme which last year served 38,000 young men and women in seven Western states and in Canada and Mexico.

"With the Bible as text, emphasis is placed on a practical application of its teachings to the lives of youth. What better blueprint for living was ever recorded than that preserved by the prophets? The answers to the questions of modern youth, as uncertainties pile up on them in an increasingly chaotic world, are all

found in the experience of the past.

"This is the key to why these young people leave cosy, warm beds on chill winter mornings to attend daily classes that are not accepted either for high school graduation or college entrance credit.

### **Not All Members**

"Neither are these selected students. They are not even all members of the same church. There's a piquant little redhead in one class who answered our question this way: 'No, I'm not a Mormon. I simply couldn't understand why my best friend insisted on getting up so early to come down here, so I came along one morning for laughs. I got so interested I asked to register. I haven't missed a day since!'

"No, they are not selected excepting by their own desire to learn. They represent a cross-section of young America with all its problems. They are average kids looking for a defence against the grim spectre of fear and destruction that now shrouds their future.

"And how do these Bible teachers meet that challenge?

"By teaching respect for the inspired Constitution of the United States with its God-given liberty, regard for the rights of others, and love for all mankind. By showing the wisdom of avoiding the mistakes of the past, and fostering a dynamic and living faith in God and the ultimate triumph of good. All this through daily basic instruction in the Master's written word. . . .

"Teachers are also meeting the challenge by putting into the hands of the young people the tools of self-government and teaching them their use, thus preparing them for leadership, when in the process of

inexorable time they will become our leaders.

"In the words of one vivacious brunette, president of her class: 'Every senior student gets a turn being a class officer. We learn confidence in ourselves and how to do the job. Besides, when you're responsible for the whole class, it makes you think twice before you make a decision. . . .'

"'This teamwork' (referring to Bible class and to the baseball team practising in Church recreation hall after school particularly), one student says, 'This teamwork is also noticeable in the group spirit of the classroom.'

"The youth of America are studying together, singing together, praying together, and loving it. In one class, five nationalities—White Russian, Mexican, Italian, Greek, and American—work as one. . . .

"There is a carry-over, too, with the students. Bill Kemsley, a husky youth, graduated last June from the first three-year course. Bill drove sixteen miles each morning from his home in San Fernando to a North Hollywood class. He transported a carload of students to class and back to San Fernando. The second year he transferred to North Hollywood High.

"'I wanted to get away from my old companions,' he said seriously. 'They weren't bad fellows, you understand, but I guess my standards had changed. Two of those boys are in jail now,' he added thoughtfully.

"Parents, too, no longer show inertia where this programme is concerned. Their comments read like a before-and-after commercial: 'I used to have such a time getting Mary out of bed in the morning. Now she gets me up!'. . .

"And what is being done," concludes the author, "in Southern California to open a frontier for youth to live and learn the fundamentals of peace and progress could be duplicated anywhere in America by any similar group."

To the question in that letter sent to the Auxiliaries, "How may parents render more effective co-operation?" came answers common to every article: First, parents should become acquainted with lessons and plans of the organisation; second, take rather than send your children; third, set a proper example.

### Teach Prayer in Home

In conclusion, parents, if you would have your children pray, then teach them to pray in the home. If you would have your children refrain from taking the name of God in vain, then let them never hear profanity pass your lips. If you would have your teenagers sense the value of keeping themselves true to their future husbands or wives, then let chastity and loyalty to your marriage covenant pervade the atmosphere of your own home. If you would have them refrain from the use of tobacco, then you refrain from the use of tobacco yourself.

Brethren and sisters, in presenting this general picture of what the Church is doing for teenagers I have

had in mind, first, to commend the workers for their diligence and efficiency. God bless them. And second, to show how effective the Church is in its divine organisation in touching the life and activities of every member therein. We see how true are Paul's words when he wrote: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

In conclusion, and by way of testimony, the Gospel is truly the power of God, and the Church the divine means of bringing, first, **satisfaction and joy to the individual**, here and now; second, **bringing harmony in the home**; third, **more general understanding and resultant peace among the nations**. What a message! And fourth, **salvation and exaltation in the Kingdom of our Father**.

With all my soul I pray that the Lord will hasten the day when the influence of this divine organisation will be felt more potently for the good of the inhabitants of the world, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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*"Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." (Galatians 5:26)*

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## TABERNACLE CHOIR PLANS EUROPEAN TOUR

“A DREAM come true” ejaculated the Tabernacle Choir members and Saints of the British Mission alike at the recent announcement by the First Presidency that a trip to Europe is in prospect for the Choir early next fall.

The announcement was made to the choir by President David O. McKay. The purpose of the trip was characterised as a great missionary endeavour. “Just when, where, and how you will go is yet to be determined, but it is settled. The First Presidency has approved it and you are going to be given the trip”, told the Church leader.

Details and planning of the trip have been placed under the direction of W. Jack Thomas, tour manager of the Tabernacle Choir. It is expected that the tour will take six weeks. Consideration is being given to appear in the great annual music festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Concerts in England, on the continent, and en route to New York are proposed along with a mid-ocean broadcast from the *Queen Elizabeth*.

President McKay stated the purpose of such an undertaking in these words :

“Uninformed people in the world have had prejudices against the Church. Some still have them. No work has been more effective in removing such prejudices than the work here on Temple Square. Here the people learn that the Church stands for the highest and the best.

“No organisation has contributed more to informing and enlightening the people than has the Tabernacle Choir. The First Presidency would like to extend your influence and give the world outside the boundaries of the United States opportunity to partake of your influence and spirit and hear the famous Tabernacle Choir. To that end the First Presidency would like to take steps to have you take a trip to Europe.

“There can be no greater missionary work than to have you sing for the cultured people of Europe the songs of Zion. There are still some who are prejudiced. Millions need to have a better understanding of the Church. There is no more potent influence for that missionary work than the Tabernacle Choir. You are chosen to represent the Church because of your abilities to sing and because of your personal characters and conduct. God bless you and protect you and guide you as you prepare for this great missionary effort.”



## THE GOSPEL COMES TO LONDON

Monday, August 31st, 1840, Elder Kimball baptized Henry Connor, watchmaker, 52 Ironmongers Row, London, in Peerless Pool, being the first baptized in that place, and confirmed him the same evening.—“History of the Church”.

THE event occurred thirteen days after the arrival of the first missionaries in the great metropolis. London was not exactly “fertile” soil for the seed of the Gospel and the brethren met much opposition from their “rivals”—other non-conformist ministers. The visit to the capital had been proposed at both the April and July Conferences and Elders Kimball, Woodruff, and George A. Smith eventually arrived at the Great Western Railway terminus on August 18th, 1840, whereupon they proceeded at once right across the city to 19 King Street, Borough, S.E., where lived Mr. William Allgood, whose wife was a sister-in-law of Theodore Turley. She received them kindly and directed them to comfortable lodgings at the “King’s Arms” in the same area.

Like thousands of missionaries that have been to London since, they took advantage of the opportunity to see the greatest city in the world and all its high spots, from the Monument to Buckingham Palace, and from Westminster Abbey to the British Museum. Included in their travels were visits to several reverend gentlemen and their meetings. They constantly sought a field in which to sow the vital seed.

The first words proclaiming gospel doctrine in public in London were spoken by Elder George A. Smith at a meeting of the Temper-

ance Society in St. George’s Road, Elephant and Castle. This hall was subsequently rented by the brethren but opposition before the date set for their meeting deprived them of a large congregation and they had to pay 7s. 6d. (a large sum then) for its hire while only thirty people gathered.

After numerous refusals to have time allotted them in the halls of various groups the brethren determined to preach in the open air. They tried Smithfield Market, but the police stopped them. Henry Connor, stepping up, offered to take them to Tabernacle Square, E.C.2. There they made a certain headway until a “rival” discovered they were Mormons and tried to prevent them continuing. But the crowd were sympathetic to the missionaries and according to the History of the Church:

*“Elder Kimball gave out an appointment for three o’clock p.m. at which time a large congregation was gathered.*

*“After opening the meeting, by singing and prayer, Elder Woodruff spoke about thirty minutes, from Galatians 1:8, 9, upon the principles of the Gospel. Elder Kimball followed on the same subjects. The people gave good attention, and seemed much interested in what they had heard. The inhabitants who lived around the square opened their windows to four stor-*

*ies high the most of them were crowded with anxious listeners, which is an uncommon occurrence. The meeting was dismissed in the midst of good feeling."*

Henry Connor invited the Elders to his house but soon after getting there Elder Kimball felt impressed to return to the Square. The brethren did so and found a large crowd still engaged in conversation upon the things they had heard from the missionaries earlier. He spoke again at their invitation and many were very impressed. Henry Connor offered himself for baptism.

How many since that time have heard the Word of God preached from a London street corner or square or other open space? Such converts are numerous indeed and their stories of conversion, of knowing the Gospel to be true at first hearing, are inspiring.

In October the brethren gathered in Manchester for another Conference where it was reported that the London branch numbered eleven members.

Soon after this, Elders George A. Smith and Wilford Woodruff returned to the London field of labour, but due to illness, Elder Smith was forced to leave and later Elders Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball joined Elder Woodruff. Brigham Young moved out to Cheltenham and the other two brethren continued alone and with some success until they were joined by Elder Lorenzo Snow in February 1841.

The first London conference was held at 57 Kings Square, Goswell Road, E.C., on February 14th, 1841. Branches represented were Bedford, Ipswich, Woolwich, and London. At the General Conference in Manchester in April of the

same year the London Conference was reported as having 137 members. One year later there were 400 members in the district and records show that at one time the London District membership numbered 2,647. Many of these have been loyal servants of the Lord and have emigrated to Zion.

London has indeed made her contribution to the building of the Church there. Cosmopolitan though it may be, hardened by the differences of its thousand creeds and races, the great city has produced many leaders for the restored Church of Jesus Christ, not the least among them being Charles W. Penrose, George Reynolds, and George Teasdale.

It had already been suggested that British Mission Headquarters should be moved to London with the publishing office, but the move did not take place until nearly 100 years afterwards. Surely it was fitting that this place to which all the world comes, should accommodate the nerve centre of the Church in Britain. In 1840 there were less than 2,000,000 people in London. That was more than any other place could boast in so small an area. Everything pointed to the advisability of raising the Standard of the Lord there. But the Lord did not desire it, evidently, and the missionaries were men of God.

Today, with her population grown to more than nine million, London is still a great field with, as yet, much unsown. The voice of the missionary still cries out from Hyde Park, and there are still the few who hear and believe; but there is much to be accomplished there yet. The World's great city must yet know that the Mormons are a great people.

## THE RESTORATION OF THE GOSPEL

OUR Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, foretold the restoration of the Gospel. Prophets of the Old and New Testaments also declared it.

John, the Revelator, on the Isle of Patmos, during the latter half of the first century wrote:

*"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,*

*"Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come; and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."* (Revelation 14:6-7).

Luke quotes Peter as prophesying that the heavens must receive the Risen Lord, Jesus, until "the times of restitution of all things,":

*"Repent ye therefore, and be converted; that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;*

*"And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:*

*"Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began."* (Acts 3:19-21).

Jesus, Himself, reviewed the whole scope of man's career losing and regaining the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

*"And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto*

*him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"*

*"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.*

*"For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.*

*"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

*"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.*

*"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."* (Matthew 24:3-7; 14).

Isaiah foretold in prophecy both the departure and estrangement of mankind from the Lord, and his doing a marvellous work and a wonder wherein the "wisdom of the wise shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid." The Saviour quoted this with approval (see Matthew 15:7-9) and also to Joseph Smith (see Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith 2:19).

*"Stay yourselves, and wonder; cry ye out, and cry: they are drunken, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with strong drink.*

*"For the Lord hath poured upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes; the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.*



*"And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.*

*"Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:*

*"Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid."* (Isaiah 29:9-14).

The prophet Malachi foretold the return of Elijah with authority and keys to have his mission performed in the latter-days:

*"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:*

*"And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."* (Malachi 4:5-6).

The great vision of the prophet Daniel foretells the setting up of a kingdom by "the God of Heaven"—in the last days, which shall fill the whole earth. It is God, not man, who shall do it. Latter-day Saints accept the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the re-establishment of the Church of Jesus Christ as the beginning of the fulfilment of this prophecy:

*"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not*

*be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."* (Daniel 2:44).

Whatever the Lord does, He reveals to and declares through his servants, the prophets; this is His unvarying practice:

*"Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."* (Amos 3:7).

The recurring cycle of departure and estrangement from God is declared to the prophet Joseph Smith by our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Himself:

*"I was answered that I must join none of them, for they were all wrong; and the Personage who addressed me said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight; that those professors were all corrupt; that 'they draw near to me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me, they teach for doctrines the commandments of men, having a form of godliness, but they deny the power thereof.'" (Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith, 2:19).*

The restoration of the Gospel and of authority to officiate in its ordinances was accomplished by direct revelation from Jesus Christ:

*"And, behold, and lo, this is an ensample unto all those who were ordained unto this priesthood, whose mission is appointed unto them to go forth—*

*"And this is the ensample unto them, that they shall speak as they are moved upon by the Holy Ghost.*

*"And whatsoever they shall speak when moved upon by the Holy Ghost shall be scripture, shall be the will of the Lord, shall be the mind of the Lord, shall be the word of the Lord, shall be the voice of the Lord, and the power of God unto*



salvation." (Doctrine and Covenants 68:2-4).

*"And also with Peter, and James, and John, whom I have sent unto you, by whom I have ordained you and confirmed you to be apostles, and especial witnesses of my name, and bear the keys of your ministry and of the same things which I revealed unto them;*

*"Unto whom I have committed the keys of my kingdom, and a dispensation of the gospel for the last times; and for the fullness of times, in the which I will gather together in one all things, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth;"* (Doctrine and Covenants, 27:12-13).

The restoration of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in the latter-days follows the established pattern abundantly illustrated in the scriptures. The departures and estrangements of mankind from God through man's weakness and wilfulness in following after error, false doctrines, and iniquity in the days of Adam, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, in the tumultuous days of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, and in the times of our Lord's ministry among men as well as through the Dark Ages of Medieval times, each generated the need for the Lord to reassert His love for His erring children by giving them again another dispensation of the Gospel. He has declared the dispensation in our day to be "the dispensation of the fullness of times."

Always he speaks to man through "His servants the prophets."

What utter folly for men to say that the heavens are sealed and that there is no revelation from God to man in our day! "The wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid."

## District Presidents Meet

By President N. Edward Hoopes  
Manchester District

ON October 12th fourteen district presidents met with President Reiser and his counsellors at Nightingale Lane for a two-day conference which will be recorded in British Mission history. The conference was called to reinforce the branches and districts, to improve methods of proselyting, and to share the joys of membership in Christ's Church. The British Mission needed new life and greater spiritual confidence, and after feeling the influence of the Spirit of the Lord as it directed this conference, one could have no doubt it *will* have new life and confidence.

A rigid schedule of events filled every moment with activities for the improvement of the mission. Goals were set and plans made which will influence every sincere member of the Church in Great Britain, their families, and ultimately everyone in the country. The theme of the conference was "Selflessness in the Lord's service."

As we reflect upon the rich history of the Church in the British Mission and remembered the stalwart defenders of the faith, the men and women who had the courage of their convictions, we realised the very real possibilities that lie ahead for us in the Church today in this country. There are still many people waiting to hear the wonderful news of the restoration of the Gospel, and the Mission Presidency unfolded our responsibility to find these people, and to share with them the beauties of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

(continued on page 331)

# CHILDREN'S PAGE

by Jean G. Silsbury

## THE ANIMAL KINGDOM

“AND God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.” Genesis 1: 24.

Have you ever thought how the Lord protects all the animals which live on the earth? Here is a story about one of them :

### Harry, the Hedgehog

Harry lived in a little house under an elm tree in Penny Woods. He

was a very busy little hedgehog because he had a wife and three babies to look after. Each of the babies was just like him with a long nose and little black, beady eyes.

Every evening, as it grew dusk, he would creep out of his home and search in the grass for insects to take back for his family's supper. When he returned all the children would rush to be first to get the tit-bits he had brought for them.

One evening as he was taking his stroll, he stopped because he thought he heard a noise. Yes, sure enough there was the soft padding of paws on the ground nearby. Soon he saw a big brown and white dog coming toward him.

What do you think he did? Very quickly he rolled himself into a ball and when the big brown and white dog came close he got such a surprise. As he touched the hedgehog with his nose he let out a terrific bark of pain. The little hedgehog



had turned himself into a ball of prickles. There was no way the dog could get at him and so he soon went trotting away in disgust. Harry finished his stroll in peace.

As winter came on, the hedgehog family started to look for a winter home. Harry found a big pile of leaves where they would be sheltered from the cold winter winds and rain. He saw that all his family were comfortable before he curled up for his long winter sleep to dream about the green grass and the beautiful flowers which would be out before they woke again.

### Can you answer these questions?

1. What did the Lord give the hedgehog to protect himself?
2. What is it called when an animal goes to sleep for the winter months?
3. How many animals can you



name that have shells to protect them?

4. Which animal changes colour so that it cannot be seen?
5. What is a camel's hump used for?
6. How can a wasp defend itself against an attacker?
7. Why does a lizard have a jointed tail?
8. How does a sheep keep itself warm in the winter?
9. How many more animals can you think of that have special ways of defending or protecting themselves?

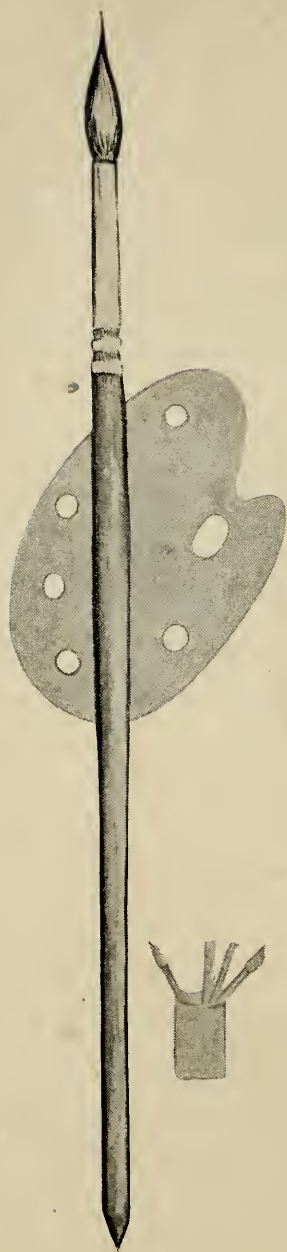
The following quotations are found in the Bible. Can you give the references?

1. ". . . it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks."
  2. ". . . and he rested on the seventh day——"
  3. "Thou shalt have no other Gods before me."
  4. "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?"
  5. "Give us this day our daily bread."
- 
1. Acts 9: 5.
  2. Genesis 2: 2.
  3. Exodus 20: 3.
  4. Psalms 24: 3.
  5. Matthew 6: 11; Luke 11: 3.

### FORGET-ME-NOT

When God so great in Heaven  
Did give to all the flowers a name,  
One little blue-eyed one came back.  
"The name Thou gavest me, I have  
forgot."  
The Father looked on her and  
smiled  
And said, "Forget-me-not."

## HE PAINTS HIS WAY INTO THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE



**T**HANK you and come again. This many Saints of the British Mission wish to Elder Basil E. DeWitt.

Elder DeWitt visited Great Britain on his return home—Mesa, Arizona—from thirty months' service in the New Zealand Mission. His ability in the field of interior decoration and strong determination to serve the Lord spell the mark of success.

Born in Sydney, Australia, Elder DeWitt was baptized a member of the Church fifty years ago. Blackfoot, Idaho, became his next home and later: Aston, Idaho; Los Angeles; Hawaii; and Mesa, Arizona. He is the father of eight children.

Murals painted for the Hawaiian Temple in 1933 and for the Catholic's Sacred Hearts Academy were completed during his stay in Hawaii. Chapels in Mesa's First, Second, and Tenth Wards, and Queen Creek have seen the touch of his brush. He also did repair work on murals in the Arizona Temple. Whilst in New Zealand, decoration was completed in the Auckland, Kaikohe, Kaikoe, Pauri, Pipiwai, Nehuka, Maramoku, and Tehawky Chapels.

It was to be a vacation in Great Britain but Elder DeWitt willingly offered his services and he was soon back to work. Saints in North London, Peterborough, and Catford branches appreciate the work he did in the decoration of their buildings.

Elder DeWitt told of many experiences that occurred while working with the people of the islands.



He took part in two night baptisms (baptisms are at night due to opposition) while at New Way Island. The ceremonies took place in a lava cave in the sea.

Only praises could be given to the native people. "Their devotion is unexcelled by any people in the world. They are dependable, trustworthy, and loyal to the Church", explained the decorator.

Many hours were spent in teaching these people ceramic painting. They excelled in pastels. Special Interest Classes painted fabrics, cobblestones (used for paperweights) and various scenes on coconuts.

The visitor loved to watch the native dancers as they moved only

their knees and feet, and added tea leaves, ribbons, and flowers to their costume.

Great progress is being made in the Church building programme in New Zealand under the direction of Elder George Biesinger. Over a million dollars will be spent in the construction of an LDS agricultural college and dormitories in this land of "the long white cloud" with its green fields and thousands of hills teeming with cattle and sheep." A large farm next to the school was recently purchased and the new chapels which have been built "would encourage any missionary."

The Church of God will grow if such men as Elder DeWitt continue in faithful service.

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#### DISTRICT PRESIDENTS MEET—Contd.

As the district presidents came to London they brought with them fatigue and discouragements, but they received the inspired council of the Mission Presidency with glad hearts, and as they went home they were determined to take with them the spirit of love, confidence, and unity.

Gary C. Nelson of Bristol, Sheldon C. Snow of Ireland, J. Kent Kerby of Leeds, Maurice L. Benson of London, N. Edward Hoopes of Manchester, Murray S. McInnes of Newcastle, and Ronald F. Neilson of Sheffield, who all came to the British Mission together one year ago, and J. Preston Creer of Nottingham, Fred Birkhead of Wales, who has returned to his native land, Robert Bennett of Scotland, and Frank E. Young of Norwich, C. Richard Devey of Birmingham, George Durrant of Hull, and Samuel Sessions of Liverpool, all represented their districts and dis-

cussed their problems and joys together.

A four-hour testimony meeting high-lighted the activities. The district presidents all pledged their support to the Mission Presidency, to the British people, and above all others, to the Lord. The hours were filled with the sweet spirit of repentance, and strong witness of the restored Gospel. President Reiser climaxed the inspirational conference with a simple but eloquent prayer for the welfare of the missionaries, the members, and for the country.

The future of the Church in Great Britain depends wholly upon all of us, the united efforts of every member and missionary of the Church in Great Britain.

This was an important act in our drama because it was a step forward in the job that lies ahead to make this truly "a Zion for the pure in heart." I shall never forget the conference.

## THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

**H**UNDREDS of Relief Society members from throughout the world attended the impressive cornerstone rites of the Relief Society's new office building. Climaxing the two-day annual General Conference presided over by Sister Belle S. Spafford, general president, were the cornerstone laying ceremonies held Thursday, September 30th.

President David O. McKay gave the dedicatory prayer. Speakers were Mrs. Amy Brown Lyman, past general president, and Sister Spafford. Opening prayer was given by President J. Reuben Clark, Jr., and the closing prayer by President Joseph Fielding Smith. Pictures, papers, clippings and other items were placed in a large metal box enclosed in the cornerstone.

**S**ACRIFICES are today being made by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, according to Bishop Carl W. Buehner of the presiding bishopric. Today 523 church buildings are under construction.

At the Lorin Farr Stake conference, Bishop Buehner said, "It is wonderful what church members are doing. They are a great people who make great contributions for the building of chapels and temples."

**R**OCK Kirkham of Santa Maria Stake, son of Elder and Mrs. Oscar A. Kirkham, was presented with an honorary Master M Men pin by his father at the recent Santa Barbara Stake conference.

The award was based on outstanding service to youth and for

exemplifying the ideals of the Mutual Improvement Association. Elder Kirkham is a former member of the YMMIA general board, where he served as Boy Scout representative.

Recalling a code of ethics sent to him by his parents on his 21st birthday while serving as a missionary in Great Britain, he stated, "Every day do something to build up your body; every day do something to build up your mind; do a good turn daily, and say at least one prayer and feel it."

**L**DS elders labouring in Australia won the South Australian basketball championship held in August. The "Mormon Yankees" defeated the Latvian team at the climax of a four-day state tournament in which the top eight teams of South Australia participated. Australia's No. 1 team, "Latvian Giants", went through three straight undefeated seasons before tackling the Mormon team.

One South Australian sports writer made this statement: "The Mormon Yankees' victory over Latvian Giants in the men's state basketball championship, was so brilliant that it even dimmed the dazzling mastery of the Globetrotters."

The basketball programme was used as an experiment to reach the youth of the country through athletics. The team gained much favourable publicity for the Church and became very popular in many parts of Australia. The number of baptisms performed by the team stands near the top in the mission.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE LESSON FOR DECEMBER, 1954

Text : "The Signs of the Times", pp 64-71.

Lesson 10. "Jews Returning Home".

Aim : By prediction and by fulfilment of that prediction, we can see that the Jews are returning home to Palestine.

### In the Hands of "Infidels"

**A**FTER the destruction of Jerusalem, the Jews were scattered over all the earth, and there were scarcely 8,000 Jews left in Palestine. Jerusalem became a prey, and so did Palestine, to the Gentile nations. Many times the fanatical Christians of Europe attempted to wrest the Holy Land from the grasp of the "infidel", in the so-called "crusades". In all these attempts they were defeated and the Holy Land remained in the hands of the "infidels". They were not infidels any more so than the so-called Christians who went to fight them. Until 1917, Jerusalem was trodden down of the Gentiles. In December, 1917, General Allenby, the British general, took his forces into Palestine and captured it almost without opposition, and this land fell into the hands of the British where it has been ever since.

When I read the Book of Mormon and the Book of Isaiah and learn that the Lord predicted that the kings of the Gentiles would be nursing fathers to the House of Israel I am greatly impressed. Have they not been nursing fathers to scattered Israel? Have they not carried them in their ships both to this land and to Palestine?

### A Jewish Ruler

After England got possession of

Palestine and after the armistice they received the mandate of Palestine, they sent a Jew down there to be governor of that land, Sir Herbert Samuel, and he had more power down there than the King of England has in England. From the days of our Lord until Sir Herbert Samuel was sent to Palestine, there had never been a ruler in that land who was a Jew. This was a sign to us that the words of the Lord were about fulfilled, and the days of the Gentiles were coming to their close. The Lord does not do many things in an instant, but the sign was given for the transition of authority from the Gentiles to the House of Israel. This will naturally take some years.

When England received the mandate of Palestine, Mr. Balfour, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, sent this written communication to Lord Rothschild:

"I have much pleasure in conveying to you on behalf of His Majesty's Government the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations, which has been submitted to and approved by the Cabinet:

"His Majesty's Government views with favour the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being



clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.

“ I would be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.”

Here was a proclamation inviting the Jews to return to Palestine which was made a Jewish state. The American Congress ratified this act a short time later.

### **Dedicated for Return**

The land of Palestine was dedicated for the return of the Jews, October 24th, 1841, by Orson Hyde, but the time had not come then for the return of the Jews. President George A. Smith again dedicated the land, in March, 1873. In 1878 an organisation of Jews was formed called the Lovers of Zion, the purpose being to establish the Jews in Palestine. The Zionist Federation was commenced in 1896, and the first conference of this organisation was held in Basel, Switzerland, in 1897, and the old nationalistic spirit was revived.

To return to the saying that the Gentiles should be nursing fathers to the Jews, do you know that Great Britain has spent—well, I do not know how much, but up until some 10 years ago, that nation had spent upwards of £50,000,000. I have here the official report of the Palestine Royal Commission. It is filled with interesting information. Great Britain has spent millions in rehabilitating Palestine, making farms, planting vineyards, orchards, building canals, reservoirs, hydro-electric plants all over the country and establishing industries. Other forces

have also been at work. The ships of Great Britain and the United States have carried these people back to their ancient home.

### **Palestine Today**

At the beginning of the war in 1914, there were about 80,000 Jews in Palestine. They have been returning rapidly ever since. In 1925, there were over 121,000, and 10 years later there were upwards of 400,000. The progress in agriculture, manufacturing of numerous products, the development of the natural resources, has reached remarkable proportions. Schools and a university have been established; vineyards, orchards and farms have been developed all over the land of Palestine. The amount of land in Jewish ownership has risen from 844,000 dunums in 1925, to 1,332,000 dunums in 1936. A dunum is about a quarter of an acre. There are now more than 200 agricultural settlements containing 100,000 people on these plots. Yet the urban population is more impressive in its development. Tel Aviv, a strictly Jewish city, with more than 150,000 inhabitants had less than 200 houses and 2,000 inhabitants in 1914. Other cities have also sprung up and old cities have been developed anew. Haifa in 1936 had a population of 100,000 inhabitants.

### **Jews Returning Home**

So we see that since the armistice in 1918, the Jews have been returning in great numbers, encouraged by both the United States and the nation of Great Britain, the latter taking over the great responsibility in this gathering movement. The prophecies are rapidly being fulfilled. The Jews are returning only partly believing in Jesus Christ. They are willing to accept Him as a



great prophet among the prophets of Israel and Judah, but not as their Deliverer, or Messiah. When our Lord shall come to them in the calling of Deliverer, the whole land will be in siege. Jerusalem will be at the mercy of its enemies. There will be a great earthquake and the Mount of Olives will cleave in twain forming a great valley into which the oppressed people will flee from the city for safety. At that time the enemies of the people will be destroyed. Christ will appear to the Jews and show them His hands and His feet and then they will accept Him as their Messiah. Then, as Zechariah has predicted, every family will mourn apart, and there will be weeping and wailing because they rejected their King. After those days there will come peace and Israel will come back into his own. As Ezekiel has proclaimed:

#### A Glorious Day

“Thus saith the Lord God: behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:

“And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all; and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:

“Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwelling places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them so shall they be my people, and I will be their God. . . .

“Moreover I will make a coven-

ant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

“My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

“And the heathen shall know that I the Lord do sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.”—Ezek. 37:21-23 and 26-28.

These reference books will aid those studying the history of England as a substitution for the Social Science lesson. Listed are books available in the public libraries.

*A History of England*, by Keith Felling.

*A Short-History of Great Britain*, by Munro.

*A People's History of England*, by Morton.

*The new Groundwork of British History*, by G. T. Warner and others.

*Anglo-Saxon England*, by Stenlon.

*A Short History of the English People*, by John Richard Green.

*A Shorter History of England*, by Belloc.

*The Story of the British people in Pictures* by Odhams Press Ltd., Long Acre.

*The March of History from Earliest Times to Present Day*, by G. S. Maxton, M.A., and E. D. Dance, M.A.

*The Past Presented*, by Low.

*The Groundwork of British History*, by George Townsend, M.A.

*History of England*, by J. M. Trevelyn

Other books are available in the libraries of British History covering periods of time as the Elizabethan Period, Saxon Period, etc.

## ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

MANY visitors who attend Sunday School show an inclination to become interested in its activities. Many are lost to the work because of neglect and indifference on the part of some Sunday School officers, teachers, and members. In a nut-shell, it is generally because of the lack of real systematic service to such people. The Superintendency should instruct all to pay careful attention to these people. A record should be made of their address, repeated calls should be made to their homes (without wearing out the welcome), and an attempt should be made to interest them in the importance of attending Sunday School. The duty of all Saints is to seek out the honest in heart—not to pass them by with indifference.

It is not in keeping with the spirit of this great work to mete out a cool reception to such visitors by members who have been known, in some cases, to be "clannish". This may prove a serious hindrance to the work of the Lord. The Superintendency should assume the responsibility of relieving such a situation by themselves making the stranger comfortable and welcome. Do all

possible to win their friendship and confidences. Their interest will then increase and they will be able to feel the warmth of the spirit characteristic of Christ's Sunday Schools.

The difficulties encountered in keeping the Sunday School alive and active will never become too great if the Superintendency carry with them the spirit of the gospel—one of progression. Then the work will not become engulfed in an epidemic so contagious that the very life of the Branch Sunday School is at stake. The organisation must be properly officered. Otherwise it may become static and the Saints and friends will lose confidence in the leaders. Attendances will drop because some will feel they are wasting time. People come to Sunday School to be instructed in the principles of life and salvation. The teachers must be prepared to present their lessons in such a manner that attenders will be eager to come in following weeks to continue study. The Superintendency should do all in their power to assist the teachers to realise their responsibility as leaders, the necessity of preparation and careful planning, and above all, enthusiasm for the work.

## OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE TO PARENTS

IF any of us were asked to list our possessions in order of importance, probably our children would head the list. If asked, "What do you want for your children?" any true Latter-day Saint would reply, "A testimony of the restored Gospel." Yet few of us give much consistent thought as to how this is going to be brought about. It doesn't just happen even when parents love the gospel. President Grant used to say that both he and his wife knew the multiplication tables very well; yet none of their children were born with this skill. They all had to learn the multiplication tables for themselves and that same principle applies to gaining a testimony.

Here is the situation that faces our children—they go to school five days a week for ten to twelve years. Most of the school learning is good but none of it directly teaches the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. Many of the children see the film shows at least once each week, spend hours listening to the wireless, watching television, and reading comics. From these sources much that is learned is contrary to Latter-day Saint standards. It is taught with a psychological approach which makes it glamorous and desirable. How can we give our children the wisdom and strength to resist this learning? Our religious teaching must be

stronger and more vivid than it is. For example preaching to children in a class is not the right approach to counteract the glamorous appeal made by cigarette and liquor advertisers.

Sensing the seriousness of the situation the Primary Association set about preparing a programme designed to make Latter-day Saints of our children. We utilised the finest teaching techniques. The children not only listen but they *see* and they *do*. That is why we have Pilot groups with their compasses, insignia and pictures for children to hang in their rooms. We have Home Building with its activities, bandlos, sampler to embroider and New Testament for every girl, and we have Trail Building with its bandlo, boy's activity kit, and scouting activities. That is, why, with every Primary course, there is a large set of coloured pictures, patterns, visual aids, etc., for the teacher to use with the lessons. If you could take time to look through the primary programme you would be thrilled with the material we use to teach your children the gospel. All over the Church the people who are using the programme are delighted with it. The problem is that it *costs money*. It costs more than plain lecture courses cost. It is our opinion that the adult membership of the Church should be educated to the fact that:

1. The gospel is the most important learning their children can receive.
2. It should be taught in the best possible way.
3. This will entail some expense.

Let us get a true sense of values and put first things first. Our children need the teachings they receive in Primary and whilst we can draw from the Branch Budget for some of the supplies, the children need money to buy items such as the New Testament, neckerchief, sampler, compass, etc. (Bando emblems,

which are really awards, should be purchased by the Primary.) They will therefore have to earn the money themselves or ask you for it. We would therefore appreciate your consideration of the viewpoint presented here. We all pray our children will be strong in the faith. Primary is one means our Heavenly Father is using to answer that prayer. With the Priesthood, Primary workers, and parents supporting the programme, Primary will exert a powerful influence in the spiritual growth of our children.

<b>DISTRICT ACTIVITIES</b>
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## **BRITISH MISSION**

### **Birmingham**

Birmingham District Relief Society Arts and Crafts Display was held in conjunction with Union Meeting in October. Arrangements were under the direction of Sister Hannah Jevons. All branches of the district contributed and a great deal of skill was demonstrated.

A special feature of the Union Meeting was the visit of *Brother Cook* of the Mission Genealogical Board. From his vast resources of knowledge and experience of the work, he answered many questions for the group. Many inspirational stories concerning the work increased the testimonies of those present.

### **Liverpool**

Because of the large area covered by the Liverpool District and the consequent expense involved in travelling long distances, the District has been divided into two areas,

North and South. The division has realised increased activity and social events. Union meetings are now held once every two weeks and the attendance has doubled.

Francis Jackson was recently appointed President of the *Accrington Branch*. Ambrose Worthington and Kenneth Edmundson are serving as 1st and 2nd Counsellors respectively, with Hilary Halliwell as Branch Clerk.

### **Manchester**

On September 7th, *Ashton Branch* visited Belle Vue to see the historical display "The Storming of Quebec" followed by grand fireworks. All agreed that full enjoyment was gained from this outing particularly the children who were 100 per cent present!

*Brother Albert Woodruff* has been presenting film-shows in the branches of the district, charging a small admittance fee. All the proceeds have been generously donated



to the Welfare Fund which has benefitted considerably.

*Wythenshawe MIA* enjoyed a Treasure Hunt on September 16th. The theme was "Treasure along the Mormon Trail" and it proved to be great fun besides being instructive. A pioneer story told by Elder Han-nig and pioneer games were enjoyed by all.

Cultural Arts Day was held in *Oldham* on October 9th for the district. Drawing, fancywork, and handwork of all kinds, including cookery, were exhibited and points for excellence were awarded to the branches. Each branch also presented a 15-minute scene depicting different stopping-places on the Pioneer trek. It was all carried out under the supervision of Elder Sumner and Sister Joyce Carter.

### **Bristol**

*Bristol District* held a social for its members (assembling for Conference the following day) on September 11th. Carnival-type booths afforded much fun to all present in addition to a talent-laden floor-show. American hot-dogs and popcorn were served.

*Plymouth Branch* reports the successful inauguration of the MIA season with an opening social held at the home of YWMIA President Eunice Wallace on August 31st.

The Church has obtained possession of property known as Chatsworth House, in Tavistock Road, Mannamead, Plymouth. After re-conditioning, this building will serve as home for the branch and make available to the members many facilities hitherto not enjoyed.

Members of the neighbouring branches and the Fairford Servicemen's Group joined in making a resounding success of the Building

Fund Benefit Bazaar, Jumble Sale and Social held by *Stroud Branch* on September 25th.

### **Norwich**

*Colchester Branch* held their Sunday School outing on August 14th, journeying to Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex. Twenty-nine members had a most enjoyable trip. The children spent a lovely day on the beautiful sands and in bathing. A good deal of work had gone into raising funds for the occasion and all concerned felt amply rewarded.

### **Irish**

The annual MIA Harvest Ball was held October 2nd in the North Belfast Harrier's Hall. A good crowd attended and thoroughly enjoyed the evening's entertainment.

The chapel and classrooms of 13 The Mount have been repainted and decorated. New lighting and more attractive colours have made a vast improvement in appearance and will allow the building to be kept much cleaner. The Belfast Saints are now starting projects for fund-raising activities for a new and larger chapel. Good work, Belfast !

### **Personals**

#### **Births**

*Wattleworth.* A son was born to Sister Doris and Frank Wattleworth of Wythenshawe on August 21st. He is to be called John Boyd.

*Hamer.* A son was born to Sister Thelma and Mr. Hamer on September 11th. He is to be called Martin.

*Mason.* Jennifer and David Mason of the Cheltenham Branch and now living in the Cotswolds at Northleach, received the gift of a second son, to be called Andrew Paul, on September 13th.

*Moore.* A son was born to Sheila and Robert Moore, serving in the U.S. Forces, July 24th. Sister Moore

was formerly a member of the South London Branch where she was converted to the Church. The baby was blessed by Robert E. Oliver, also of the U.S. Forces, on September 5th and given the names of Robert Leo.

### Engagements

*Bailey—Lynn.* Catherine Lynn of Belfast became engaged to Glen Bailey of Florida, U.S.A., in July. Brother Bailey is serving in the U.S. Forces in Germany but expects release in Spring 1955 when both will fly to America for their wedding.

*Wallace—Turner.* Announcement was made at the Harvest Ball reported above of the engagement of Helen Turner to Ivan Wallace, both of Belfast.

### Marriages

*Clack—Kelsch.* Mafwana Clack of Lechlade, Glos., became the bride of Brother Louis A. Kelsch, serving in the U.S.A.F. at Fairford, Saturday, August 14th. The ceremony took place in the beautiful old church at Lechlade. An impressive service was enhanced by the rendering of "The Lord is my Shepherd" by a combined choir from Cheltenham and Stroud Branches, U.S.

Servicemen and Bristol District Missionaries.

*Ricardo—Panayiotou.* Sister Doris Ann Ricardo was married to Panayiotis J. Panayiotou of Nicosia, Cyprus, on Saturday, August 28th, in Weston-super-Mare. The couple spent a honeymoon in London and will make their home in Cyprus.

*Duggin—Hill.* Sister June Irene Duggin became the bride of Brother Stanley Vincent Hill on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 8th, in Plymouth. The couple spent a honeymoon in Bristol and plan to reside in Malta where the groom is in the service of the Royal Navy.

*Joyce—Odine.* Sister Eunice Emily Joyce was married to Leon Odine on October 9th. Both are members of the Auxiliary Fire Service and six firemen and five firewomen formed a guard of honour outside the Rochdale Chapel. Instead of the usual bridal car the couple were transported to the reception on a fire-tender. As reported by the local newspaper, "It only needed a shout of 'Fire' for the bride to drop her bouquet, grab a helmet and follow the bridegroom."



Relief  
Society  
Bazaar  
at  
Glasgow

## “EXCEPT A MAN . . .”

Testimony of Andre K. Anastasiou, former British Mission President now serving as a missionary in France.

I was born in Odessa, Russia, and was brought up in the Russian Orthodox faith. Christened with my twin brother as infants, I grew up under the admonition and training of my mother, a devout churchgoer. I sang in the Russian and Greek churches in Odessa as a choir-boy. It was impressed on me that anyone who did not belong to the Russian Orthodox Church would go to hell. I had a simple conception of heaven and hell, gained from a cheap painting one could buy anywhere in Russia. The upper portion of the picture represented a spacious garden with fruit trees and red apples in abundance; a man sitting under the trees was apparently enjoying his heavenly rest. Above the trees was God, with long hair and a beard, sitting on a little cloud. The lower portion of the same picture represented hell—a fearful, dark place, filled with cauldrons of black boiling tar, heated by leaping tongues of flame. Devils, with hooves and horns, carried white frightened sinners on pitchforks and dropped them into the seething cauldrons.

It was a frightful and imaginative method of convincing those outside the Russian Church of what their fate would be. But this awful presentation of the punishment to come did not prevent many, many millions of Russians from partaking of the fiery vodka, and the resulting drunkenness and debauchery among all classes that eventually led to the fall of the Empire.

At the age of nineteen and a half years I left my home, in company with a neighbour, to travel abroad and “see the world”. We were in Belgium when the 1914-18 War broke out, and after some privation through difficulty in obtaining work, I managed to get to England just before the Germans could commandeer us for Labour Battalions. On reaching London I was immersed in the teeming millions of people, all of whom spoke a different language to me. French and German were of little help, and although it was hard for me, I was determined to learn the language and advance my education. I learned to like the English people and gradually I made a number of friends.

By 1917 I was working in the City of London in one of the large shipping and finance companies. Late in the month of August, one bright, sunny morning, the personnel manager came into our office with a young man—a stranger. One by one, we were all introduced to the new private secretary of our chief executive. His name was Forrest Stuart, of Montpelier, Idaho, U.S.A., and he was a young attorney.

The moment I shook his hand I felt a friendly clasp that touched somewhere in me a responsive chord. With a charming smile he passed on to others. I watched him. A fine young man, well built, square-shouldered, well-dressed —



an American. Left in our office on his own he chatted awhile and departed. I caught up with him in the corridor.

"Mr. Stuart," I said, "may I get acquainted with you a little better? Won't you have a cigarette?" I pulled out my cigarette case.

"No thanks, I don't smoke", was the reply.

"Where are you staying?"

"I am at the —— Hotel. It's a nice place, but too noisy for me."

"Perhaps you would like to move to my place. It's a pretty decent boarding-house."

We arranged to meet after office hours and two days later he moved in. Next day I invited him to have dinner with me in a large London restaurant. Using a bit of my French I ordered from the menu and asked for a bottle of wine. But here I met a second refusal from my new friend. As I leaned over to pour him a glass, he said, "No thanks, I don't drink." I looked at him in surprise. "Would you mind telling me why you don't smoke or drink?" I asked him. He looked at me very intently and with earnestness in his voice, replied, "I have been brought up never to smoke or drink, it is part of my religion."

"What is your religion, may I ask?"

"I am a Mormon."

"And pray tell me, what is that? I have never heard of the 'Mormon' religion."

He explained to me, briefly, a few things about Mormonism. I was impressed. As days and weeks passed I was able to judge for myself his ideal way of life and I admired him; secretly, I envied him. He introduced me to some Mormon families in London and here again I was impressed with the same ideal

concepts of life they held—no smoking, no drinking. They did not even touch tea and coffee. They seemed fine healthy people, with lovely children and all so friendly, happy, and full of clean fun.

I saw for myself the most practical Christian religion in everyday life. Within three months I gave up smoking. Stuart was so happy about it that he smacked me on the back so hard he sent me spinning, and grasping my hand so that it made me wince, promised me a great future. I met some of the Mormon missionaries in London. Fine young men. No swearing, no smutty stories. Serious-minded, but happy people. I began to compare the teachings of the Mormon faith with that of mine. Although I had prayed to God all my life, I realised I did not know Him. I had a hazy idea of something—someone called God. Now I began to understand the true intelligent concept of God, and His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost. Now I realised that I must keep God's commandments—or merit the opprobrium of a liar.

Three months passed by in serious study of the scriptures, with frequent examination by the missionaries, frank criticism and debate; but the evidence of the Divine Truth restored in all its fullness could not be contradicted or side-stepped. Kindly and patiently I was taught the truth. Eventually I resorted to prayer and petitioned my Heavenly Father for guidance and light.

Convinced that I had never known, never been taught, the true Christian religion based on the evidence of the Holy Scriptures, and converted to the realisation that I must obey the Lord's word, I applied for baptism. On March 17th,

*(continued on page 344)*



# MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES

## ARRIVALS

October 5th, 1954

Elder Sidney Joseph Atkin

Elder Larry Key Juchau

Elder James Leon Evans

*From*

St. George, Utah

Eden, Idaho

Salt Lake City, Utah

*Assigned to*

London District

London District

Scottish District

October 12th, 1954

Elder LeRoy Nile Buhler

Elder Norman Heber Jackson

Elder Bruce Hinckley Robinson

Elder Charles W. Taggart

Elder Kelvin Thomas Waywell

*From*

Vale, Oregon

Kanab, Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah

Cody, Wyoming

Toronto, Canada

*Assigned to*

Sheffield

Leeds

Scotland

Sheffield

Leeds

## TRANSFERS

Elder Grant W. Lee

Elder Heber D. Clark

Sister Lily C. Clark

Sister Mary Crawford

*From*

Wales

London

London

Norwich

*To*

Scotland

Newcastle

Newcastle

Liverpool

*Effective on*

September 25th

October 2nd

October 2nd

October 16th

## APPOINTMENTS

Elder Fred Kellett Birkhead was appointed President of the Welsh District to succeed Elder Grant W. Lee, September 24th, 1954.



Elder Penton



Elder Riches



Sister Easton

## RELEASES

Elder Herbert Penton of Ogden, Utah, was released September 24th, 1954. He served in Sheffield and London districts.

Elder Jacob Gibson Riches of Salt Lake City, Utah, was released October 7th, 1954. He served in Leeds, London and Newcastle districts.

Sister Elizabeth R. Easton of Glasgow, Scotland, was released October 7th, 1954. She served in Sheffield, Bristol, and Liverpool districts.

## BAPTISMS

July 31st

**Stanislawa Jasinska Petersen** of Cardiff.

August 21st

**Kathleen Bain** of West Hartlepool.

**Sarah Gwynne Bain** of West Hartlepool.

August 22nd

**Derrick Sipson** of Hucknall.

August 27th

**Olga May Wilkinson Caddick** of Wythenshawe.

September 4th

**Ada Thornhill** of Nottingham.

**Florence Kathleen VonWerne** of Nottingham.

**Wolfgang Heinz Kurt VonWerne** of Nottingham.

**Virginia Andrea Barry** of Nottingham.

**Sylvia Kosters** of Brighton.

**Christine Gates** of Portsmouth.

September 5th

**Elizabeth Eastwood** of Burnley.

**Lavinia Eastwood** of Burnley.

**Thomas Dugdale Eastwood** of Burnley.

September 11th

**James William Such** of Birmingham.

**Jean Olive Such** of Birmingham.

**Tony Michael Davis** of Birmingham.

**Raymond John Bennett** of Nuneaton.

**Lorna Kathleen Mace** of Birmingham.

**William Fisher** of Leeds.

**Ernest Alfred James Cooper** of Newcastle.

**Gertrude Cooper** of Newcastle.

**Harry Gray** of Newcastle.

**Jennie Gray** of Newcastle.

**Isaac Murdock** of Newcastle.

**Norma Murdock** of Newcastle.

**Minnie May Murdock** of Newcastle.

**Robin Gray** of Middlesbrough.

**Elizabeth Patterson Gray** of Middlesbrough.

**Robin Gray, Jnr.**, of Middlesbrough.

September 12th

**Jean Marie Sears Didra** of Bristol.

**Maifwana C. Kelsch** of Bristol.

September 18th

**Margaret Ellen Palmer** of Newchapel.

**Barbara Mullen** of Romford.

**Christine Needham** of Romford.

**Peter Carleton Martin** of Liverpool.

**Doris Martin** of Liverpool.

**Eric Morrison Taylor** of Glasgow.

**Catherine Graham Shorthouse** of Glasgow.

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“EXCEPT A MAN . . .”—Contd.

1918, I was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commonly called the Mormon Church, and received the Laying-on of Hands for the Gift of the Holy Ghost.

A new life began for me. I was so

happy, and I felt within me a burning testimony that I had done right, and that I had obeyed the Lord in His injunction that “Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God.”

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SUBSCRIPTION**

# Millennial Star

*November*

## **THE TEMPLE AT NEWCHAPEL**

This is a reproduction of the artist's sketch of the Temple to be erected for Latter-day Saints in Great Britain at Newchapel, Surrey. The General Authorities of the Church have approved this sketch, and have authorised its being submitted to the constituted civic authorities in the country. By them it has been approved, subject to submission and approval of detailed plans.

Preliminary plans have been prepared, submitted, and reviewed, and ground exploratory work to discover the nature of the sub-soil is in progress. Upon the results of this first work, plans for the foundations will be prepared.

Final plans will be prepared and submitted for approval and thereafter the architects will arrange for interested contractors to submit tenders.

A tender accepted, the contractor selected, construction will begin. It is estimated that from eighteen months to two years thereafter, normal building conditions continuing, the Temple will be ready for dedication.

NOTE : We have so made the cover picture, that it will be suitable for framing.